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Working Documents

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REPORT

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Development
and Cooperation

on the proposal from the Commission of the European
Communities to the Council (Doc. 1-1054/81-COM(82) 14 fin
for a decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between
the European Economic Community and the Government of the
Republic of Senegal amending the Agreement on fishing off
the coast of Senegal signed on 15 June 1979, the protocol
and the exchange of letters referring thereto (Development
aspects)

Rapporteur: Mr John de COURCY LING

By letter of 15 February 1982 the President of the Council of the European Communities requested the European Parliament, pursuant to Article 43 of the EEC Treaty, to deliver an opinion on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Government of the Republic of Senegal signed on 15 June 1979, the protocol and the exchange of letters referring thereto.

The President of the European Parliament referred this proposal to the Committee on Development and Cooperation and the Committee on Agriculture as the committees responsible, and to the Committee on Budgets for its opinion.

On 18 March 1982 the Committee on Development and Cooperation appointed Mr de COURCY LING rapporteur.

It considered this proposal at its meeting of 18 March 1982 and 1 April 1982.

At its meeting of 1 April 1982 the committee unanimously adopted the motion for a resolution and the explanatory statement.

The following participated in the vote: Mr Poniatowski, chairman; Mr Bersani, vice-chairman; Mr de Courcy Ling, rapporteur; Mr Cohen, Mr Enright, Mr G. Fuchs, Mr C. Jackson, Mr Michel, Mr Penders (deputizing for Mr Luster); Mrs Rabbethge, Mr Schieler (deputizing for Mr Lezzi); Mr Sherlock, Mr Vergeer, Mr Vergès, Mr Wawrzik and Mr Wedekind.

The opinion of the Committee on Budgets is attached.

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A

The Committee on Development and Cooperation hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution, together with explanatory statement:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

embodying the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Government of the Republic of Senegal amending the Agreement on fishing off the Coast of Senegal signed on 15 June 1979, the Protocol and the Exchanges of Letters referring thereto (Development aspects)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (COM(82) 14 final),
 - having been consulted by the Council (Doc. 1-1054/81),
 - having regard to the Report from the Committee on Development and Cooperation (Doc. 1-96/82),
 - having regard to its resolution on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation approving the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Senegal and the European Economic Community concerning fishing off the coast of Senegal and two exchanges of letters referring thereto¹
1. Welcomes the amendment and extension of the agreement between the Community and the Government of the Republic of Senegal on fishing off the coast of Senegal;
 2. Notes with approval that the amended agreement provides for a 5% increase in the gross registered tonnage of the Community fleet permitted to fish in Senegalese waters;
 3. Encourages the conclusion of further fishery agreements between the Community and interested ACP coastal states or groups of states under mutually satisfactory conditions such as provided for in the Joint Declaration on Sea Fishing annexed to the Convention of Lomé II;
 4. Suggests, given the nature of fish movements, that fishing agreements be concluded on a regional basis with groups of ACP countries;

¹Report by Mr Enright, OJ No. C309 of 10.12.79, page 64

5. Attaches particular importance to the training and scientific aspects which will receive greater financial assistance under the amended agreement;
6. Points out that the effective implementation of agreements such as this involves adequate knowledge of fish stocks and the management of species throughout their migratory range, as well as the ability to enforce catch quotas; to this end calls on the Commission to propose increased technical assistance, where necessary, in future fishing agreements;
7. Invites the Commission to evaluate the consequences of the agreement on the economic development of Senegal;
8. Approves the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

1. The first fishing agreement between the Republic of Senegal and the European Economic Community was signed on 15 June 1979 with a duration of two years. On 15 June 1981 the agreement was renewed temporarily, at first for three months and then for a further two months. During this period negotiations were taking place between the Community and Senegal on the extension of the 1979 fisheries agreement. The outcome of these negotiations took the form of an agreement which was approved provisionally by Council on 21 December 1981 and signed on 21 January 1982.
2. On 16 November 1979 the European Parliament adopted reports drawn up by Mr ENRIGHT on behalf of the Committee on Development and Cooperation¹, and Mr LIGIOS on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture² approving the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation concerning the agreement between the government of the Republic of Senegal and the European Economic Community concerning fishing off the coast of Senegal and two exchanges of letters referring thereto.
3. The aim of the proposal under consideration is the definitive approval of the agreement arising from Council Decision 81/1055/EEC on 21 December 1981³. The annex to the proposal under consideration amends the annex to the 1979 agreement with regard to licence applications and issuing formalities, training grants and the scientific programme, and the provisions regarding Senegalese observers on Community boats fishing in Senegalese waters.
4. Under the proposed new agreement, licence fees would be set according to the following scale :
 - (a) trawlers landing their entire catch:
 - CFAF 8,500 per gross register ton per year for shrimp boats
 - CFAF 7,500 per gross register ton per year for fish boats
 - (b) trawlers not landing their entire catch and fishing throughout the year:
 - CFAF 17,000 per gross register ton per year for shrimp boats
 - CFAF 15,000 per gross register ton per year for fish boats
 - (c) freezer trawlers not landing their entire catch and fishing for a four month period between 1 April and 30 September:
 - CFAF 10,500 per gross register ton
 - (d) tuna boats landing their entire catch:
 - CFAF 2 per kg of fish caught

¹ Doc. 1-466/79, OJ No. C309 of 10.12.79, p.64

² Doc. 1-474/79, OJ No. C309 of 10.12.79, p.63

³ OJ No. L379 of 31.12.81

- (e) tuna boats not landing their entire catch:
CFAF 6 per kg of fish caught.

5. Trawlers not obliged to land their entire catch in Senegal may obtain licences valid for not more than four months. In other cases, the fee is to be set for one year, irrespective of the period of validity of the licence.
6. The gross registered tonnage of the Community fleet permitted to fish in Senegalese waters is to be increased by 5% under the amended agreement.
7. Mr ENRIGHT's resolution¹ attached importance to the undertaking by the Community to provide study and training grants for Senegalese nationals in the various branches of the fishing industry. The new agreement specifies that there will be ten of these for five years. The rapporteur welcomes this.
3. With regard to the signing on of observers, the agreement provides that freezer trawlers flying the flag of Member States of the Community shall, when fishing in Senegalese waters, accept observers designated by Senegal. No vessel will be required to have more than one observer on board at one time. Board and lodging is to be provided for the observer by the ship owner at the latter's expense. The observer is to be lodged in the area provided for the officers or if this is impossible, in a living area distinct from that provided for the crew. In addition, the owner would be obliged to reimburse the Senegalese government at a flat rate of FCFA 8,000 per day spent by the observer on board the vessel.
9. The protocol establishing the fishing rights and compensation provided for in the agreement, for the period from 16 November 1981 to 15 November 1983, lays down the limits referred to in Article 4 of the 1979 agreement for the issuing of licences and fixes the compensation to be paid by the Community to Senegal at FCFA 2,500 million over the two years, to be paid in two annual instalments. In addition the Community is to contribute FCFA 100 million towards the financing of a Senegalese scientific programme. This fund will be at the disposal of the Centre for Oceanographic Research of Dakar-Thiaroye. It should be noted that the rates for licence fees have increased slightly, while the compensation to be paid to Senegal has remained unchanged.

¹OJ No. C309 of 10.12.79, page 64

10. The Committee on Development and Cooperation accepts the conditions of the amended agreement, which it recognises as mutually beneficial to the parties. It refers the European Parliament to paragraph 69 of the resolution contained in Ambassador INSANALLY's report to the ACP-EEC Consultative Assembly on the Fifth Annual Report of the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers and an analysis of the early experience of the Second Lomé Convention with recommendations for its optimal implementation¹, which "strongly encourages the conclusion of further bilateral fishery agreements between the Community and interested ACP coastal states or groups of states under mutually satisfactory conditions as provided for in the Joint Declaration on Sea Fishing annexed to the Convention of Lomé II". It is to be hoped that further agreements of this nature can be concluded in the near future.
11. The paragraph quoted above refers to agreements with "groups of states" as well as with individual states. The Community could play a valuable role in encouraging this form of regional cooperation which would be particularly appropriate as fish moving in coastal waters can pass through the coastal zones of several states.
12. The effective implementation of agreements such as this involves adequate technical knowledge of fish stocks and movements in the coastal waters in question, and the ability to determine and enforce catch quotas. The Community would serve its own interest by increasing its assistance to ACP States in this area.
13. The rapporteur trusts that the Committee on Development and Cooperation will be consulted in advance on the Commission's mandate for the negotiation of future such agreements wherever possible.

¹BJ No. C15 of 20.1.1982, page 13

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON BUDGETS

Letter from the Chairman of the Committee to Mr Michel Poniatoski, Chairman of the Committee on Development and Cooperation

Subject: Amendment of the agreement between the Republic of Senegal and the EEC concerning fishing off the coast of Senegal (COM(82)14 final)

Dear Mr Chairman,

At its meeting of 18 March 1982, the Committee on Budgets considered the abovementioned proposal.

The appropriations to be entered in the general budget of the Community total 8.2 m ECU divided equally between the financial years 1982 and 1983.

Budget heading 422 for the current financial year makes a provision of 5.8 m ECU for fishing agreements currently in force.

The Committee on Budgets is able to give a favourable opinion. It feels obliged to point out, however, that it would be preferable for a new budget heading to be opened for each separate fishing agreement in the interest of greater budgetary transparency.

(sgd) Erwin LANGE

Present: Mr Lange, chairman; Mrs Barbarella, vice-chairman; Mr Abens, Mr Arndt, Mr Balfour, Mrs Boserup, Mr Croux, Mr Gouthier, Mr Habsburg, Mr Jackson, Mr Langes, Mr Newton Dunn, Mr Pfennig, Mr Saby, Mrs Scrivener and Mr Simonnet.